

MINUTES  
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
AUGUST 21, 1998

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, August 21, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Members present:** Yvonne Brown, Joanna Heidel, Billy Hewes, Henry Hudspeth, John Junkin, William Seal, Hazel Terry, and George Walker.

**Members absent:** Sara Fox and Patricia Puckett.

**Staff in attendance:** Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Ethel Ewing, Deborah Gilbert, Sandra Lucas, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, and Dr. Evelyn Webb.

**Guests in attendance:** Mr. Dexter Holloway representing the Mississippi State Department of Education, Mr. Andrew Robinson representing Kaplan Educational Centers, and Mr. Andy Kanengiser representing the Clarion Ledger.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:00 a.m.

**PRELIMINARIES**

The invocation was given by Joanna Heidel.

Mr. Walker recognized guests in attendance and requested that they give their names and the institutions they were representing.

**Approval of Minutes of July 17, 1998, Board Meeting**

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 17, 1998, meeting.

**Review of Agenda**

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Olon Ray distributed a handout which gave an update on the activities of the mississippi.future.net (m.f.n.) work group (Exhibit A). The work group comprised of fifteen individuals will develop recommendations on issues related to Mississippi's technology needs.

SBCJC Minutes: August 21, 1998

Dr. Ray also reported that Governor Kirk Fordice has appointed him to serve on the Science and Technology Taskforce, which was created to follow-up and implement recommendations made by the Science and Technology Commission. The Taskforce is dealing with ways to make high level technology a more inviting part of Mississippi's economy.

Dr. Ray reported that the SBCJC office has been updated from T-1 to DS-3 lines increasing the capacity for transmitting data and the potential for more comprehensive coverage using the Community College Network. Also, the SBCJC DMZ, Firewall, installation has been completed.

Dr. Ray reported on the activities of a committee comprised of MACJC presidents and State Workforce Council members to develop recommendations on Advanced Technology Centers.

Dr. Ray announced the distribution of a Teaching/Learning Request for Proposal for the development of a new model of teaching and delivering classroom instruction. A proposer's conference is tentatively scheduled for late August.

Dr. Ray updated the Board on the Mississippi Gulf Coast Initiative.

Dr. Ray reported that Congress had passed the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. This Act mandates various partner involvement and forces coordination among many federal employment and training programs. The Act will have a significant impact on how federal fund monies are managed in the State. As more information is received, the Board will be apprised. The Act will create a Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission to study matters related to the information technology workforce. Upon Dr. Ray's recommendation, a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to endorse a request to Senator Trent Lott that George Walker be appointed to the Commission.

Dr. Ray discussed with the Board the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal article concerning tuition free community college education.

Dr. Ray reminded Board members of the upcoming Legislative Budget Office hearing set for September 17, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. The State Workforce Council's budget hearing will follow at 3:45 p.m. that same day.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of a tentative schedule of the 1998 MACJC Regional Legislative Committee Meetings.

Dr. Ray also distributed a copy of a conference report, The Proposed Mid-South Center for Rural Community Colleges, for the Board's review (Exhibit B).

On December 9 and 10, 1998, SBCJC staff, IHL staff, and The College Board will be sponsoring a workshop on the Gulf Coast that will examine new ways of partnering between universities and community colleges.

Dr. Ray distributed a copy of the SBCJC Flower and Gift Fund account.

Dr. Ray stated that he would be out of the office from August 31, through September 12, 1998, for vacation.

## **REPORTS/ACTION**

### **Finance Report**

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert covered the items listed on the Finance Committee agenda.

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by William Seal, and a second by Hazel Terry, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 1998, disbursement from General Fund 2298 in the amount of \$6,376,235 (Exhibit C).

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by Billy Hewes, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement from Fund 4080 and 4110 in the amount of \$2,084,940.16 (Exhibit D).

On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to the purchase of nine (9) Tangent desktop computers, and three (3) Tangent mid-tower computers in the total amount of \$23,148 (Exhibit E)

Deborah Gilbert also presented the following reports not requiring action for the Board members' review:

Bi-Monthly Capital Improvement Report (Exhibit F)  
Financial Statements for funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit G).

Mrs. Gilbert reported that the second issuance of \$6.6 million of telecommunications bonds were sold on July 21, 1998.

Mrs. Gilbert also gave a follow-up to questions that were raised in the July meeting dealing with moral obligation bonds and debt service for FY 1998.

Mrs. Gilbert reported that all fifteen (15) community and junior colleges' FY 2000 (MBR) Budget Requests, as well as, the composite request and the SBCJC Request have been filed with the Legislative Budget Office. Copies of these budgets will be made available to any interested Board member. After a discussion, Mr. Walker requested that copies of the composite budget be forwarded to the Board before the LBO hearing.

### **Program Committee**

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the addition of an Associate Degree program in Surgical Technology at Pearl River Community College.

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve a lower level course offering, MAT 269, to be offered by the University of Mississippi at the DeSoto Center.

SBCJC Minutes: August 21, 1998

#### Funding and Formula Report

Mr. John Junkin reported to the Board on the Funding and Formula Study Committee. Following a "stepped program" of recommendations, Mr. Junkin presented a concept whereby vocational technical funding currently distributed by the State Department of Education, would be transferred to the SBCJC for disbursement. Several scenarios were discussed on how the funding might be distributed involving different weights and bases to see what effect they would have on the colleges. Also, Mr. Junkin stated that a "hold harmless" clause would be established to keep any college from being hurt due to the change. It was the consensus of the Board to approve the concept of seeking the transfer of present vocational technical funding distributed through the State Department of Education to the SBCJC, if there was consensus on the part of the presidents of the community and junior colleges. The concept was to be presented to the MACJC at the August 25, 1998.

#### Workforce Education Report

Mr. Walker urged Board members to attend the LBO Hearing on September 17, 1998. He outlined the State Workforce Development Council's (SWDC) plan that will be presented to try and obtaining additional funding for workforce training in Mississippi.

Mr. Walker also reported on the Activities of the SWDC's Committee for Support of Public Education. The Committee is continuing to work with the State Department of Education in establishing model sites which would partner local school districts and community colleges to develop a seamless delivery system for students going into the workforce or on to colleges.

Mr. Walker stated that members of the SWDC will be participating in the MACJC Regional Legislative Meetings. At each meeting a member of the SWDC and local employers will be allotted a part of the program to present workforce needs.

Mr. Walker urged Board members to review the report distributed by Dr. Ray on establishing a nationwide center for the study and encouragement of rural community colleges.

#### EdNet Report

Mrs. Yvonne Brown reported on an EdNet retreat she attended. During the retreat the number one priority established was to define and address the participating agency roles and responsibilities. The group also held a discussion on EdNet's relationship with their private partner, Wireless One. Attorney Sam Keyes has been charged with the responsibility of negotiating with Wireless One to complete the build-out of the system as specified in the contract.

#### Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration Report

Mr. Danny Seal reported on the activities of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration during the June 25, and August 13, 1998, meetings (Exhibit H).

#### Update on Statewide Information Initiative

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported that Phase I of the Statewide Information Initiative has been

## SBCJC Minutes: August 21, 1998

completed. The information obtained from a statewide survey to determine the general public's perception of Mississippi's community and junior colleges will be reviewed and a system to tabulate the information is being developed. Communication Arts, the consultant group helping with the initiative, has suggested the following:

1. A visual identity plan around the phrase, "Above and Beyond"
2. An 8 1/2" X 11" two fold brochure illuminating all of the fifteen community and junior colleges
3. An 8 1/2" X 11" four page newsletter design
4. Four black and white newspaper adds
5. Thirty second radio spots
6. Thirty second television spots
7. A five minute video.

The primary purpose of the initiative is to enhance the community and junior colleges' statewide image. Dr. Webb will continue to update the Board as staff moves into Stage 2 of the Initiative.

### Adequate Insurance Coverage

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher presented a proposed policy with regard to adequate insurance coverage at Mississippi's community and junior colleges (Exhibit I). On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Yvonne Brown, the Board voted unanimously to submit the proposed policy to the Secretary of State's Office to begin the administrative procedures process.

### Administrative Procedures Act

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher presented a report on a meeting he attended with regard to proposed changes in the administrative procedures act. He highlighted the changes for the Board's information. On a motion by Billy Hewes, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to ask Dr. Olon Ray to continue to observe the progress of the proposed policy on the administrative procedures act and to voice the Board's concerns to the Secretary of State's Office.

### Kaplan's Proposal

Mr. Andrew Robinson, Mississippi Manager of Kaplan Learning Centers, presented a proposal that would implement a CPA review program through Mississippi's community and junior colleges. Kaplan would partner with the colleges to offer the course through distance learning methods and the colleges would receive a part of the profit from the training.

### Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Joanna Heidel, seconded by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

George Walker for attending a State Workforce Council meeting on August 12, 1998.

SBCJC Minutes: August 21, 1998

Yvonne Brown for attending an EdNet meeting on August 5, 1998.

Other Business


Dr. Evelyn Webb thanked the Board for their cooperation in getting photographs taken for inclusion in the SBCJC Annual Report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by William Seal, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



George Walker, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Olon E. Ray  
Executive Director